Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

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SUBJECT: NEWSPAPER ARTICLE ON PERCY-JAVITS VISIT

SPOTTED THIS ITEM BELATEDLY IN THE AUGUST 8 WASHINGTON STAR. ARTICLE IS A DISPATCH FROM THE LONDON "TIMES."

ANALYZING US A CHINESE PUZZLE:

(PEKING)

THE CURRENT VISIT TO CHINA BY AN AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL GROUP HAS CLEARED THE AIR FOR THE PROPOSED VISIT BY PRESIDENT FORD LATER THIS YEAR, BUT HAS BROUGHT HOME THE SERIOUSNESS OF MISAPPREHENSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

THE GROUP, LED BY SENATORS JACOB K. JAVITS, R-N.Y, AND CHARLES H. PERCY, R-ILL., FOR EXAMPLE, CANNOT UNDERSTAND HOW A COUNTRY THE SIZE OF CHINA CAN BE ADMINISTERED UNCLASSIFIED

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ADEQUATELY WHEN THE TWO MOST PRESTIGIOUS MEMBERS OF ITS LEADERSHIP ARE SERIOUSLY WEAKENED BY AGE AND ILLNESS.

THE AMERICANS CONSIDER THIS A SERIOUS PROBLEM OF PROTOCOL

THAT COULD AFFECT THE PRESIDENTIAL VISIT.

THE EXTREME VIEW, AS EXPLAINED BY ONE OF THE FOUR SENATORS, IS THAT FORD SHOULD NOT COME BEFORE 1977, AND THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS ALREADY "PAID TRIBUTE" SUFFICIENTLY TO CHINA.

CHINA'S SENIOR LEADERS, IT IS FELT, SHOULD VISIT THE UNITED STATES, THOUGH THEY HAVE SAID THAT THEY WILL NOT DO SO WHILE THERE IS A TAIWAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

THE VISITORS HAVE FOUND NO CHANGE IN THE CHINESE POSITION ON TAIWAN, BUT THEY FORMED AN IMPRESSION OF GREAT PATIENCE ON THE CHINESE SIDE. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF A SECRET UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PEKING AND THE WHITE HOUSE ABOUT ANY PLAN FOR THE REINTEGRATION OF TAIWAN INTO THE MAINLAND.

ONE OF THE SENATORS DREW AN ANALOGY--WHICH HIS HOSTS WOULD IMMEDIATELY REJECT--WITH THE HALLSTEIN DOCTRINE AND EVENTUAL RECONCILIATION OF THE TWO GERMANYS. THERE SEEMS TO BE A GENERAL FEELING THAT THE TAIWAN ISSUE SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE FURTHER WITH SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

THE CONGRESSIONAL GROUP ALSO HAS SHOWN SERIOUS CONCERN OVER THE SITUATION IN KOREA AND HAS ASKED THE CHINESE TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE WITH PRESIDENT KIM IL SUNG TO RESTRAIN NORTH KOREA FROM LAUNCHING AN ATTACK ON THE SOUTH.

THE CHINESE, WHILE EMPHASIZING NORTH KOREA'S INDEPENDENCE, SEEMED TO SHARE THE VIEW THAT WAR COULD AND SHOULD BE AVOIDED IN KOREA.

THE VISITORS FOUND THAT THE CHINESE ACCEPT AND ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THE AMERICAN ROLE AS A PACIFIC POWER AND UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD BE AGAINST FURTHER AMERICAN WITHDRAWALS FROM THE REGION IN THE NEAR FUTURE--WITH THE EXCEPTION OF TAIWAN.

ONE OF THE AMERICANS STRESSED THAT PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE OF SOUTH KOREA ALSO WOULD BE DISCOURAGED FROM UNDERTAKING ANY MILITARY ADVENTURE.

CONTRARY TO WHAT MANY OBSERVERS HERE HAD EXPECTED, TENG HSIAO-PING, THE DEPUTY PREMIER, WHOM THE SENATORIAL GROUP MET AND LUNCHED WITH ON WEDNESDAY, DID NOT DWELL LONG OVER THE HELSINKI CONFERENCE.

HE RESTATED CHINA'S APPREHENSIONS ABOUT SOVIET INTENTIONS

IN EUROPE, BUT THE CHINESE APPEAR TO HAVE REALIZED THAT DENUNCIATIONS OF THE DETENTE PROCESS ARE NOT WIDELY WELCOMED AT PRESENT.

HOWEVER, CHINA CLEARLY SHARES AMERICAN CONCERN ABOUT EVENTS IN PORTUGAL AND DISSOCIATES HERSELF FROM THE COMMUNIST DRIVE FOR POWER THERE.

ONE MEMBER OF THE CONGRESSIONAL GROUP PUT HIS FINGER ON CHINA'S PROBLEMS IN ANALYZING US POLICY WHEN HE SAID: "THE CHINESE ARE PROBABLY PUZZLED AT HOW SEVEN OF US CAN DISAGREE ABOUT FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES."

IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE CHINESE MISTRUST THE NEW AND MORE POWERFUL ROLE OF CONGRESS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF US FOREIGN POLICY. THUS FAR, IT HAS WORKED TO CHINA'S ADVANTAGE, THROUGH SENATOR HENRY M. JACKSON'S AMENDMENT ON SOVIET AMERICAN TRADE AND THE CUT-OFF OF FUNDS FOR THE INDOCHINA WAR.

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